

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-24 (Canceled).

25 (Currently amended). A method of using ~~disposable~~ a novelty sports apparatus in a dramatic and humorous way to relieve frustration and stress comprising ~~the steps:~~

~~providing obtaining a disposable~~ novelty sports apparatus having a shaft, the shaft comprising a resilient polymer material having an elastic memory to allow bending of the shaft from an original generally straightened condition in response to a bending force and the return of the shaft to the original generally straightened condition once the bending force is removed, and an annular score line about which the shaft resiliently bends until a maximum bend angle of at least 25 degrees is reached and along which the shaft breaks when the maximum bend angle is exceeded;

with the shaft in the original, generally straightened condition, grasping an end of a shaft with a hand on one side of the score line;

with the shaft in the original, generally straightened condition, holding a second end of the shaft with a second hand on an opposite side of the score line;

applying a bending force to bend ~~bending~~ the shaft from the original, generally straightened condition to a bend angle less than the ~~along an arc of curvature that includes the score line to a range of bend angles, not to exceed a predetermined maximum bend angle to achieve a cartoon-like bend as shown in Fig. 2; and~~

selecting between a bend option (1) and a bend option (2), the bend option (1) comprising releasing the bending force to allow the resilient return of ~~returning~~ the shaft to ~~a normal position~~ the original, generally straightened condition, and the bend option (2) comprising continuing to apply the bending force to bend the shaft beyond the maximum bend angle to break the shaft as shown in Fig. 2a; and

~~releasing the first and second ends of the shaft.~~

26 (Canceled).

27 (Canceled).

28 (Previously presented). A method as in claim 25 wherein the maximum bend angle is about 45 degrees.

29 to 34 (Canceled)

35 (Currently Amended). ~~An apparatus~~ A method as in claim ~~32~~ 25

wherein the ~~equipment end includes~~ shaft carries a golf club head.

36 to 39 (Cancelled)

40 (New). A method as in claim 25

wherein the shaft comprises a baseball bat.

41 (New). A method according to claim 25

wherein the shaft carries a racquet.